

issue is of the highest moral imperative. An estimated 2 million dogs and cats are killed each year for their fur as part of the international fur trade. These animals are kept in deplorable conditions, subjected to unbearable treatment and face brutal deaths including clubbing and skinning alive. This abuse of animal rights must be stopped.

There is strong support for this legislation in Congress. The Dog and Cat Protection Act has broad bipartisan backing and 93 cosponsors. The Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act was approved unanimously by both the House and the Senate. The concern for animal welfare is also shared by the American people. Over 65 million households have a dog or cat. In my own district of Cleveland, Ohio a local Television report by Dick Goddard succeeded in raising public awareness on this issue. His commendable work encouraged thousands of Cleveland residents to express their opposition to this abusive treatment of animals.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge Congress to finish the Conference Report on H.R. 4868, and allow a vote on this vital piece of legislation. I believe that every effort should be made to ensure that the 106th Congress is allowed to vote on this issue. Americans deserve to be protected from unknowingly participating in this brutal trade.

NATIONAL SCIENCE EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject the National Science Act (H.R. 4271), which violates the limits on congressional power found in Article 1, section 8 and the 10th amendment to the Constitution by using tax monies unjustly taken from the American people to promote the educational objectives favored by a few federal politicians and bureaucrats. As an OB-GYN, I certainly recognize the importance of increasing the quality of science education as well as undertaking efforts to interest children in the sciences. However, while I share the goals of the drafters of this legislation, I recognize that Congress has no constitutional authority to single out any one academic discipline as deserving special emphasis. Instead, the decision about which subjects to emphasize should be made by local officials, educators and parents.

H.R. 4271 not only singles out science for special emphasis, certain positions of the bill will lead to a national science curriculum. For instance, the bill calls for the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation to coordinate and disseminate information on "standard" math and science curricula as well as licensing requirements for teachers of math, science, engineering or technology. While local school districts are not forced to adopt these standards, local schools will be pressured to adopt these standards because they are the ones favored by their DC-based

overlords. I would also ask the drafters of this bill what purpose is served by spending taxpayer moneys to create and disseminate a model curriculum at the federal level if their intent is not to have local schools adopt the federally-approved model?

I also object to the provision of this bill providing special assistance to science teachers for training and professional development as well as grants for so-called "Master Teachers." Of course, I recognize that, like other citizens, teachers are underpaid because they are overtaxed. This is why I have introduced the Teacher Tax Cut Act (H.R. 937) which provides all teachers with a \$1,000 tax credit. H.R. 937 effectively raises teacher salaries by lowering their taxes. In contrast H.R. 4271 raises the salaries of certain congressionally-favored educators by effectively cutting the pay of engineers, doctors, truck drivers, waiters, and even their fellow educators. Mr. Speaker, I cannot find any constitutional nor moral justification for Congress to redistribute money to any favorite class of professionals.

If the steady decline of America's education system over the past thirty years has shown us anything, it is that centralizing control leads to a declining education system. In fact, according to a recent Manhattan Institute study of the effects of state policies promoting parental control over education, a minimal increase in parental control boosts students' average SAT verbal score by 21 points and students' SAT math score by 22 points! The Manhattan Institute study also found that increasing parental control of education is the best way to improve student performance on the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) tests. Clearly, the drafters of the Constitution knew what they were doing when they forbade the Federal Government from meddling in education.

In order to put education resources back into the hands of the American people I have introduced the Family Education Freedom Act (H.R. 935). This act provides a \$3,000 per child tax credit for parents to help cover K-12 education expenses. I have also introduced the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act (H.R. 936), which provides a \$3,000 tax deduction for contributions to K-12 education scholarships as well as for cash or in-kind donations to private or public schools. HRs 935 and 936 move control of education resources back into the hands of the American people and help ensure parents can provide their children an excellent education. In fact, since the tax credits contained in H.R. 935 and H.R. 936 may be used to help finance the purchase of items necessary for a science education, such as labs equipment and computers, these bills will particularly benefit those citizens who wish to improve science education. I therefore urge my colleagues to reject the failed, unconstitutional command-and-control approach of H.R. 4271 and instead embrace my legislation to return control of education resources to the American people.

SUPPORTING THOSE WHO REAFFIRM THE OCCURRENCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in to express my disappointment that the House of Representatives chose not to consider H. Res. 596 last Thursday. This was the second time this resolution had been pulled from consideration, despite pledges by the leadership that the US would go on record to affirm their support for the Armenian genocide. It now appears that the House will not have such an opportunity before we adjourn the 106th Congress.

This resolution recognized the suffering of nearly two million Armenians from 1915 through 1923, as the Ottoman Empire strove to wipe out an entire race of men, women, and children. Those who were not murdered were effectively removed from their homes of 2,500 years in what is now modern day Turkey.

It called upon the President of the United States to do three things. Ensure that US foreign policy reflects consideration and sensitivity for human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in US records relating to the Armenian Genocide and the consequences of the Turkish court's failure to enforce judgments against those responsible for committing genocide; recognize, during his annual commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24th, that this was a systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1,500,000 people, and reflect upon the United States' effort to intervene on behalf of Armenians during the genocide; and finally, in his annual commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, emphasize that the modern day Republic of Turkey did not conduct the Armenian Genocide, which was perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire.

It was eighty-five years ago that Ottoman leaders used the guise of war as an opportunity to eliminate the Armenian population from the Empire. What began as confiscation of Armenian property in order to "support" the war effort, ended with the murder of 1.5 million people and the deportation of 500,000 others.

In May 1915, the Allied Powers of World War I charged the Ottoman Empire with a "crime against humanity" and vowed to hold responsible those involved in committing genocide. Despite commitments by the Allied Powers and indictments by the post-war Turkish government of the top leaders involved in perpetrating the Armenian genocide and the destruction of Armenian property, justice has not been served to those responsible for the atrocities against Armenians.

It is a shame that America does not have the courage to support the 2 million Armenians that suffered through a genocide. We should look more towards our friends in the international community who have not been deterred in their recognition of the annihilation of Armenians for what it really was—a genocide. The European Parliament and the United Nations have recognized and reaffirmed the Armenian genocide as historical fact, as have

the Russian and Greek parliaments, the Canadian House of Commons, the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, and the French National Assembly. It is time for America to venerate Armenians who suffered at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. And let me stress that I am not speaking of the government of modern day Turkey, but rather its predecessor, which many of Turkey's present day leaders helped to remove from power.

I commend the bravery and dedication exhibited by the Armenian people to have their story heard. I wholeheartedly supported this resolution and am disappointed that cowardliness reigned supreme to prevent its consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF JOHN F. HENNING

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of organized labor's greatest leaders on the occasion of his 85th birthday. John F. "Jack" Henning has had a long and distinguished career on the frontlines of the labor movement, fighting passionately for justice, equality, and human rights here and around the world. It is my privilege to commend and thank him for his lifetime of leadership.

Jack Henning was born in San Francisco in 1915 to hard-working parents of modest means. Hardworking himself, he graduated from St. Mary's College with a degree in English literature. In 1938, he started working with the Association of Catholic Unionists in San Francisco and began his steady climb within the labor movement. By 1949, he was working for the California Labor Federation, the official AFL-CIO organization for California, as a senior staff member, and in 1970, the Federation selected him as Executive Secretary-Treasurer. He held that position until 1996.

In addition to his service with the California Labor Federation, Jack served the cause of organized labor from within the halls of government. From 1959-1962, he served as the Director of the California State Department of Industrial Relations. He then served in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations as the U.S. Under Secretary of Labor. In these positions and afterward as an advocate, he worked consistently for justice and fair treatment of workers. He was instrumental, for example, in securing organizing rights for California's farm workers, in preventing restaurants from counting tips as wages under minimum wage laws, and in encouraging the labor movement to take strong stands for civil rights.

Jack has served on the Board of Regents of the University of California, where he fought to divest the University's holdings in South Africa under apartheid, and the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College. He has sat on San Francisco's Public Welfare Commission and the Fair Employment Practices Commission and was the U.S. ambassador to New Zealand from 1967-1969.

In 1999, the University of California at Berkeley's Center for Labor Research and

Education created the John F. Henning Center for International Labor Relations in recognition of his tremendous contributions to the labor movement. The Henning Center focuses on strategies for global unionism and the impact of globalization on workers around the world. Jack was also named Distinguished Labor Leader in Residence at the University of California's Institute of Industrial Relations.

Jack Henning has been an unfailing voice on behalf of the working women and men of the United States and of the world. We are all indebted to his leadership.

It is my honor to join his seven children, John Junior, Brian, Patrick, Nancy, Daniel, Thomas, and Mary, and his many friends and colleagues in wishing him a Happy Birthday.

HONORING JANET DENNIS ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who will be leaving my staff at the end of this year. Janet Dennis, Field Representative in my Bangor, Maine, District Office, will retire after nearly 35 years of congressional service.

It has been said that no government, regardless of its history and structure, can be better than the people who make it work. People like Janet Dennis, then, are the reason why our government is the best in the world. Janet is as dedicated a public servant as you will ever meet. She has worked hard every day to make government work for people.

Janet has been invaluable to me. I came to rely heavily on her advice and greatly appreciated her ability to identify and head off problems before others even realized they were coming. She has provided outstanding leadership to my district staff, and frequently has been asked for advice on handling complicated matters. I know that we all have learned much from Janet and are better for our time spent working with her.

Her good judgment, integrity and dedication have been an asset to my office, and to the people of Maine. Janet has never said no to a case. Rather, she has taken on challenging cases and pursued them relentlessly. She has treated constituents and colleagues alike with respect. She has also been an excellent driver, getting me everywhere I need to be in a very large district. She seems to cover an awful lot of ground in a very short time—and I appreciate it.

For more than three decades, Mainers have had the benefit of Janet's efforts. She worked for Senators Ed Muskie and George Mitchell before joining my staff, and brought with her a wealth of experience and institutional knowledge. As she retires, she leaves a void that will be difficult to fill.

There is no question, however, that this retirement is well deserved. I know that Janet is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Richard, and her children and their families. I'm sure that she won't miss the long drive from her home in Waterville to the

Bangor office, and that she will revel in having extra time to spend at camp during Maine's glorious summer months.

Janet Dennis has been a model public servant. Moreover, she has been a joy to work with every day. On behalf of myself, my family and the people of Maine, I am honored to have this opportunity to publicly thank Janet, and to wish her all the best as she enters this new phase of her life.

CONCERNING VIOLENCE IN MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives is voting on House Concurrent Resolution 426 regarding the current violence in the Middle East. I believe it is appropriate for the United States to express solidarity with Israel, but it is with reluctance that I am voting in favor of this resolution.

I am concerned about the timing and perception of this resolution. The United States has an essential role to play as facilitator of peace. The United States must be careful to encourage the peace process, and not detract from it. I am concerned this resolution may be perceived as placing entire blame for the violence on the Palestinian leadership. That is not the case, and I hope it will not be perceived in that way. In fact, in order to reach a long-lasting peace, both sides will eventually have to accept some responsibility for the current situation.

I remain a strong supporter of Israel and the U.S.-Israel relationship. But it is clear the demonstration by Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem's Old City was an ill-advised provocation. And there probably couldn't have been a worse time for a provocation. Mr. Sharon must have understood how his actions would be perceived. In fact, the Israeli government understood this danger, which is why they provided Mr. Sharon with a security force.

At the same time, Chairman Arafat has clearly used Mr. Sharon's visit as an opportunity to drastically change the dynamics of the peace process. With the recent violence, including the desecration of the West Bank holy site of Joseph's Tomb, Mr. Arafat's ability and willingness to prevent violence and maintain peace throughout Palestinian controlled areas have come into serious question.

On two occasions imprisoned Palestinian militants were released from jail. Although there have been some assurances made that these individuals are being rearrested, militant Palestinian organizations have disputed that, declaring most remain free. In addition, incitement to violence continues to be broadcast from Palestinian Authority radio and television stations. I am hopeful Mr. Arafat will have the ability and willingness to address these issues and restore calm and stability to the areas he is responsible for controlling.

Now is the time for responsible leaders to call on their people to abandon violence as a